

Amendments to the Claims:

1. (Currently amended) An automatic car wash system designed to process multiple vehicles simultaneously, the system comprising:

an elongate path extending at least 20 feet;

a plurality of stations spaced along the elongate path, at least one of the plurality of stations including a spray assembly operable to direct a pressurized and/or high velocity fluid onto a vehicle at the station;

a control device operatively connected to the plurality of stations;

at least two detectors spaced along the elongate path and operatively connected to the control device, the at least two detectors designed to indicate the presence of at least one of the multiple vehicles to the control device;

at least one proximity device operatively connected to the control device for detecting a relative distance between a rear of one of the vehicles and a front of another of the multiple vehicles; and

a radio transmitter operatively connected to the control device, the radio transmitter operable to transmit information to the multiple vehicles via radio signals.

2. (Original) An automatic car wash system according to Claim 1, wherein the plurality of stations further include at least one device selected from the group consisting of a wheel washing station, a dryer, a rotating brush, a wax applicator, and a rinsing device.

3. (Original) An automatic car wash system according to Claim 1, wherein at least one of the at least two detectors is a detector selected from the group consisting of pressure switch, contact switch, magnetic, photo eye, laser, and ultrasonic.

4. (Original) An automatic car wash system according to Claim 1, further comprising a visual and/or audible communicator for conveying information to at least one driver of the vehicles.

5. (Original) An automatic car wash system according to Claim 1, wherein the control device is operable to assign a unique radio frequency to each of the multiple vehicles and direct specific information to each vehicle via the radio transmitter.

6. (Original) An automatic car wash system according to Claim 1, wherein the radio transmitter is operable to transmit information over a plurality of radio frequencies.

7. (Original) An automatic car wash system according to Claim 1, further comprising a plurality of station radio transmitters spaced along the elongate path that operate on a common frequency and are arranged to transmit information over a distance of no more than about 10 feet, wherein the control device is operable to direct specific information to each of the station radio transmitters so that the specific information can be directed to a particular vehicle depending on the location of the vehicle along the path of travel.

8. (Original) An automatic car wash system according to Claim 1, wherein the radio transmitter is operable to transmit information selected from the group consisting of instructions, warnings, advertisements, offers, incentives, entertainment, news, music, and combinations thereof.

9. (Original) An automatic car wash system according to Claim 1, wherein the control device is operable to control a predetermined throughput of vehicles traveling through the system by directing audible and visual driving instructions at the vehicles.

10. (Currently amended) An automatic car wash system designed to concurrently process a plurality of vehicles including at least a first vehicle and a second vehicle, the system comprising:

an elongate path that defines a path of travel for the vehicles traveling along the path under their own power;

a first station positioned along the elongate path, the first station including a detector for detecting the presence of the first vehicle, and further including a spray assembly operable to direct pressurized and/or high velocity fluid against the first vehicle that is in a stationary position;

a second station positioned downstream of the first station along the path of travel, the second station including a detector for detecting the presence of the second vehicle, and further including at least one assembly selected from the group consisting of a brush assembly, a spray assembly, and a dryer assembly;

a control device operable to direct instructions to a driver of the first vehicle to proceed from the stationary position at the first station towards the second station;

at least one proximity device operatively connected to the control device for detecting the relative distance between a rear of one of the vehicles and a front of another of the vehicles; and

a communication device operatively connected to the control device for providing information to a driver of at least one of the vehicles regarding the relative distance therebetween.

11. (Original) An automatic car wash system according to Claim 10, further comprising a third station positioned along the elongate path, the third station including a detector for detecting the presence of a third vehicle, and further including at least one assembly selected from the group consisting of a brush assembly, a spray assembly, and a dryer assembly.

12. (Original) An automatic car wash system according to Claim 10, further comprising a fourth station positioned along the elongate path, the fourth station including a detector for detecting the presence of a fourth vehicle, and further including at least one assembly selected from the group consisting of a brush assembly, a spray assembly, and a dryer assembly.

13. (Original) An automatic car wash system according to Claim 10, wherein the control device is operable to direct concurrent stop instructions to at least two vehicles along the elongate path.

14. (Original) An automatic car wash system according to Claim 10, further comprising a multiple-channel entrance designed to direct vehicles from at least two feed channels into a common entrance channel.

15. (Original) An automatic car wash system according to Claim 10, wherein at least one of the at least two detectors is a detector selected from the group consisting of pressure switch, contact switch, magnetic, photo eye, laser, and ultrasonic.

16. (Original) An automatic car wash system according to Claim 10, wherein at least one of the stations includes a rotating brush, and wherein the system is selectable to engage the rotating brush against a vehicle.

17-32. (Canceled)

33. (New) An automatic car wash system designed to process multiple vehicles simultaneously, the system comprising:

- an elongate path extending at least 20 feet;

- a plurality of stations spaced along the elongate path, at least one of the plurality of stations including a spray assembly operable to direct a pressurized and/or high velocity fluid onto a vehicle at the station;

- a control device operatively connected to the plurality of stations;

- at least two detectors spaced along the elongate path and operatively connected to the control device, the at least two detectors designed to indicate the presence of at least one of the multiple vehicles to the control device;

- at least one proximity device operatively connected to the control device for detecting a relative distance between multiple vehicles; and

- a radio transmitter operatively connected to the control device, the radio transmitter operable to transmit information to the multiple vehicles via radio signals,

- wherein the control device is operable to assign a unique radio frequency to each of the multiple vehicles and direct different information to each vehicle via the radio transmitter.

34. (New) An automatic car wash system according to Claim 33, wherein the plurality of stations further include at least one device selected from the group consisting of a wheel washing station, a dryer, a rotating brush, a wax applicator, and a rinsing device.

35. (New) An automatic car wash system according to Claim 33, wherein at least one of the at least two detectors is a detector selected from the group consisting of pressure switch, contact switch, magnetic, photo eye, laser, and ultrasonic.

36. (New) An automatic car wash system according to Claim 33, further comprising a visual and/or audible communicator for conveying information to at least one driver of the vehicles.

37. (New) An automatic car wash system according to Claim 33, wherein the radio transmitter is operable to transmit information over a plurality of radio frequencies.

38. (New) An automatic car wash system according to Claim 33, wherein the radio transmitter is operable to transmit information selected from the group consisting of instructions, warnings, advertisements, offers, incentives, entertainment, news, music, and combinations thereof.

39. (New) An automatic car wash system according to Claim 33, wherein the control device is operable to control a predetermined throughput of vehicles traveling through the system by directing audible and visual driving instructions at the vehicles.

40. (New) An automatic car wash system designed to process multiple vehicles simultaneously, the system comprising:

- an elongate path extending at least 20 feet;

- a plurality of stations spaced along the elongate path, at least one of the plurality of stations including a spray assembly operable to direct a pressurized and/or high velocity fluid onto a vehicle at the station;

- a control device operatively connected to the plurality of stations;

- at least two detectors spaced along the elongate path and operatively connected to the control device, the at least two detectors designed to indicate the presence of at least one of the multiple vehicles to the control device;

- at least one proximity device operatively connected to the control device for detecting a relative distance between multiple vehicles; and

a plurality of radio transmitters spaced along the elongate path that operate on a common frequency and arranged to transmit information over a distance of no more than about 10 feet to the multiple vehicles via radio signals, wherein the control device is operable to direct specific information to each of the radio transmitters so that the specific information can be directed to a particular vehicle depending on the location of the vehicle along the path of travel.

41. (New) An automatic car wash system according to Claim 40, wherein the plurality of stations further include at least one device selected from the group consisting of a wheel washing station, a dryer, a rotating brush, a wax applicator, and a rinsing device.

42. (New) An automatic car wash system according to Claim 40, wherein at least one of the at least two detectors is a detector selected from the group consisting of pressure switch, contact switch, magnetic, photo eye, laser, and ultrasonic.

43. (New) An automatic car wash system according to Claim 40, further comprising a visual and/or audible communicator for conveying information to at least one driver of the vehicles.

44. (New) An automatic car wash system according to Claim 40, wherein the radio transmitters are operable to transmit information selected from the group consisting of instructions, warnings, advertisements, offers, incentives, entertainment, news, music, and combinations thereof.

45. (New) An automatic car wash system according to Claim 40, wherein the control device is operable to control a predetermined throughput of vehicles traveling through the system by directing audible and visual driving instructions at the vehicles.